

## POLICY NOTE

### THE HEALTH PROTECTION (CORONAVIRUS) (RESTRICTIONS AND REQUIREMENTS) (LOCAL LEVELS) (SCOTLAND) AMENDMENT (NO. 22) REGULATIONS 2021

SSI 2021/202

The above instrument was made in exercise of the power conferred by paragraph 1(1) of schedule 19 of the Coronavirus Act 2020. The instrument is subject to made affirmative procedure by virtue of paragraph 6(3) of schedule 19 of the Act.

These Regulations amend the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 to adjust the restrictions on casinos, allowing them to open in Level 2 and applying a curfew in Level 1 and 2. These Regulations also make some further adjustments to remove redundant references and align with teen socialising rules with adults in Level 2.

#### Legislative background

1. The UK Coronavirus Act 2020 received Royal Assent on 25 March 2020. Under that Act, the Scottish Government made regulations (in force from 26 March 2020) to implement physical distancing and impose restrictions on gatherings, events and operation of business activity. From 14 September 2020 they were replaced by the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. From 9 October 2020 those Regulations were suspended and replaced by the Health Protection (Coronavirus) Restrictions and Requirements) (Additional Temporary Measures) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. A new levels-based approach was introduced on 2 November 2020, when the Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Regulations 2020 (“the principal regulations”) came into force and revoked the previous regulations.

#### Policy Objectives

##### *Casinos*

2. These Regulations allow casinos to reopen in Level 2 areas, this was previously prohibited. The Regulations also introduce a curfew for casinos in Level 1 and 2 which aligns with the curfew for indoor hospitality. Casinos must close at 22:30 in Level 2 and 23:00 in Level 1.

##### *Miscellaneous amendments*

3. These Regulations make some consequential amendments that follow changes made in The Health Protection (Coronavirus) (Restrictions and Requirements) (Local Levels) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 21) Regulations 2021. These changes ensure that references to paragraphs that no longer exists are removed.

4. The Regulations also adjust the socialising rules from those aged 12-17 years old in outdoor public places in Level 2. These Regulations ensure that 8 teenagers from 8

households can meet in outdoor public places, as per the original policy intention. This aligns with the rules for teens and adults in public and private outdoor places in Level 2.

### **Consultation**

5. There has been no public consultation in relation to this instrument. The Scottish Government has informally consulted with industry bodies affected.

### **Impact Assessments**

6. An Equality Impact Assessment and a Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment have been prepared for this instrument. The provisions are also subject to strict obligations on the Scottish Government to review their necessity.

Scottish Government  
Directorate for Constitution and Cabinet  
*4 May 2021*